

Lesson 13: Samuel

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Look at the last book that took place during the time of the Judges – 1 Samuel
- 2) Be introduced to Samuel and his family and learn how Samuel became a prophet, priest and judge during the time of the Judges
- 3) See how Samuel and his family obeyed God and were blessed and how Eli and his family disobeyed God and were punished

Accommodations: How will I accommodate individual needs of students?

- See Lesson 1 for idea

Supplies:

Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- God Speaks to Me Activity Sheet – one per student
- Old Testament Review Sheets – from Lesson 1 or print new ones – one per student

Optional:

- Samuel Activity Book – one per student
- Scissors to share
- Stapler to share OR 1 Paper Clip per student – to hold book together
- Samuel is Called Color Page – one per student
- Blank piece of paper – one per class for name that clue game
- Storybook or visuals of this story to show kids (if available)

Snack:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| - Your choice | enough for each child |
| - Napkins for snack | one per child |
| - Juice or water and cup | one per child |

Lesson:

1) Introduction to Lesson

5 minutes

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied).

Say to students:

Today we are going to finish up the time of Judges by looking at the last book that occurred during that time – 1 Samuel. Can anyone remember what we have studied so far this quarter about the time of the Judges? We studied the 13 Judges, Ruth and now 1 Samuel.

Can anyone name all the books of the Bible up to 1 Samuel starting with Genesis? Genesis.....1 Samuel

The book of Samuel was written during that time of the judges when most people were not following God. As we will read today, not even some of the priests that were supposed to obey God were following God! The story of 1 Samuel begins by looking at Samuel and his family and then how he is raised by a priest and becomes a prophet of God! We will continue 1 Samuel and other books of the Old Testament after the summer when we look at the time of the Kings but for today we will take an introductory look into Samuel. For those who want to study more, a good idea would be to read a chapter from the books of 1 and 2 Samuel each day over the next few weeks if you want to learn more about Samuel and his time in the Old Testament as a faithful example of God's servant during an unfaithful time.

In 1 Samuel we will see how Samuel and his family obeyed God and were blessed and how Eli and his family disobeyed God and were punished. We will also see that Samuel was the last judge after the 13 judges we studied in the book of Judges!

Let's get our Bibles and turn to 1 Samuel 1 now.

2) 1 Samuel

15-20 minutes

Optional: Storybook or visuals of this story to show kids (if available)

Let's all turn to 1 Samuel. Can I get a volunteer to read 1 Samuel Chapter 1:1-2? And then can I get a volunteer to read verses 9-14 and someone else to read 15-20? Or read yourself.

Discussion Questions:

What was special about Hannah? She could not have a child, but prayed to God year after year and after being persistent, God blessed her with a son whom she dedicated to the Lord.

What was the name of the son? Samuel – named after the book we are studying today!

Can I get a volunteer to read 1 Samuel 1:24-28 and 2:11?

What does it say about Samuel in verse 28? He was given to the Lord and Samuel worshiped God in Shiloh.

Samuel was very, very young. But even at a very young age, his mother trained him to worship God – we should too and we should help our younger siblings do the same. Worship includes sitting quietly and listening during prayers and preaching. Looking up verses in our Bible and following along. Singing when everyone is singing, praying when others are praying, and giving when all give....Just because we are young is no excuse – Samuel was probably between 3-5 years old and he already knew to worship God!

In Chapter 2 verse 11 – who did Samuel minister under? Eli the priest

Let's take turns (4 verses each) reading 1 Samuel Chapter 2:12-35. Or read yourself.

Discussion Questions:

What were Eli's sons doing that were bad? Disobeying God by taking what didn't belong to them and disobeying God's commands.

Was Eli stopping them? No – even though he was the main priest and their father.

What did God say was going to happen to Eli and his family? They would not see old age and the two sons would die on the same day.

What did it say about who was going to replace Eli in verse 35? God was going to raise a faithful priest who would follow Him. – That was Samuel!

Samuel was very young but was obeying God even when others around him were not. What does that teach us about our lives today? Allow students to answer.

Samuel was very young and became a prophet – how can God use you as young people today to share the message of God to others? Let students answer.

Do you think you can be like Samuel and be obedient to God and do His will, even if it means hard work and time? Let students answer.

How can you do that? Let students answer.

Let's read Samuel Chapter 3 – can I get volunteers to read 4 verses each until the entire chapter 3 is read? Thank you! Or read yourself.

Discussion Questions:

Who did Samuel think was calling him? Eli the Priest

Who really was calling Samuel? God!

What did this chapter say about Samuel? He was honest, people accepted him as an honorable and a godly prophet for the Lord and that the Lord was with Samuel and that God made sure all the words Samuel spoke were truthful and from God.

Should we hope and pray that people feel the same towards us and that the Lord will be with us as He was with Samuel? Yes! Let students answer.

3) God Speaks to Me Activity Sheet

10-15 minutes

Hand out one sheet to each student along with pencil crayons. Read the directions aloud for the class – the idea is to draw ways that God has taught each student something by studying and reading the Bible – ideas may include: being kind to others, praying, reading the Bible, obeying God by going to church, helping others, etc. If needed remind them that God talked directly to Samuel because Samuel was a prophet in the Old Testament. Today we do not have prophets and so God uses His Word – the Bible to communicate to us. But His Words are still just as extremely important and should be followed if we want to be pleasing to Him.



While students are drawing, ask them to turn to **1 Samuel 7:15-17** or you turn there and read it aloud.

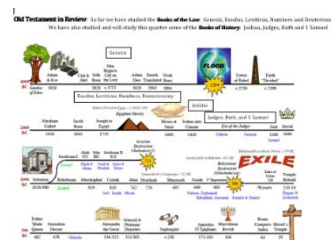
What does the verses say about Samuel and what he did? He judged....

He was the last judge recorded before the time of the kings. Not only was he a prophet and priest (1 Samuel 3:20 and 10:8) but he was the last judge after the 13 judges recorded in the Book of Judges! Pretty amazing!

4) Old Testament Review

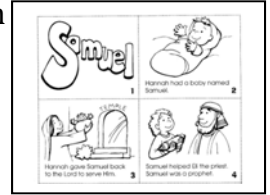
10-15 minutes

Hand out one sheet to each student. Review the timelines and what they have learned about the Judges and how that relates to the timeline of the Israelites. When done, let them take the sheets home to keep folded in their Bibles to help them review.



5) Optional: Samuel Activity Book**10-15 minutes**

Hand out one sheet to each child along with pencil crayons and scissors. Go through each picture asking what is happening in each and then reading what it says. While you do this, let students color the pictures and then cut out the squares and make a book starting with the word title SAMUEL and then going from pictures 1-5 in order. Staple the book together or paper clip when finished.

**6) Optional: Samuel is Called Color Page****10 minutes**

Hand out a color page with crayons and allow them to color.

Discuss questions while they color ask them:

What do you remember about today's event of Samuel?

What do they remember about studying the book of Judges, Ruth and Samuel?

Would you want to live at a time when most people were not following God?

Is that how it is in your life today that most people do not follow God?

What can you do to make sure you can be like Ruth, Boaz, Naomi and Samuel and follow God when others around you are not?

Should we thank God that we have people in our families that do follow God? YES!!!!

7) Optional: Name that Answer Clue Game - Judges and Ruth in Review**10 minutes**

Form two teams - make sure younger and older students are placed together so that the younger ones can receive help from the older students.

Tell the teams that you are going to name a topic. You will then give team 1 a clue. A representative from Team 1 will talk to his or her group and tell you if they have a guess. If they are right, they win and get a point. If they are wrong team 2 then gets a chance to try and answer after the next clue is revealed. Keep going back and forth until a team guesses the clues correctly and award a point for the team that does.

(See list below and have a sheet of paper to write down each team and how many points they collect) In the next round, start with Team 2. Continue until you've gone through all your answers and topics. The team that scores the highest wins!)

Answers:**Boaz**

Clues

1. Followed God
2. Was kind
3. Knew the Law
4. Got married
5. Owned fields
6. Used a sandal

Naomi

Clues

1. Lived during a famine
2. Was kind
3. Followed God
4. Had to move
5. Was old
6. Lost a husband

Ruth

Clues

1. Chose to move
2. Lived during a famine
3. Was a foreigner
4. Followed God
5. Had a son
6. Married Boaz

Gideon

Clues

1. Lived at Ophrah
2. Judge

Judges

Clues

1. Found in Judges
2. There were 13

Deborah

Clues

1. Prophesized
2. Judge

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 3. Led an army to victory | 3. Some were good, some not | 3. Sang a song |
| 4. Fought the Midianites | 4. One was a woman | 4. Worked with Barak |
| 5. Had 70 sons | 5. Most were chosen by God | 5. Helped fight the Canaanites |
| 6. Used a torch and pottery | 6. Military leaders | 6. The only woman |

8) Optional – Snack: Your Choice

Hand out snack to each child along with a glass of water or juice. Explain that: **Today we finished studying the time of the Judges – during this time we looked at the Books of Judges, Ruth and 1 Samuel.**

Let's talk about all the ways God provided for the Israelites, the Judges, Ruth and her family, and Samuel's family and let's remember how blessed we are to be able to eat food, have a family, and be able to worship with other believers while we have our snack. Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands.

Discuss any questions while snacking.

9) Optional – Songs

5 minutes

Have children sing songs with you. An example: **Song of Ruth** – See sheet attached for lyrics.

10) Close in prayer

*If desired, ask the children if they have any prayer requests and write them down to help you remember. Then ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray.

Dear God, help us as we study Your perfect Word in the Old Testament to understand it, use it and see the examples of faithful people that followed You. Help us to remember that Your commands are important and need to be followed to live a life that is pleasing to You. Help us all too always love You with our whole heart, mind, strength and soul!

Help us this week as we go from our church family – we pray that you will be with us and our families, help us share the good news of Your love to every one we meet and help us to remember to pray and study the Bible every day.

Thank you for showing us that there are good people always following You even if most people around them are not. Help us to be grateful for all You provide us and help us never forget that all good things come from You! Help us be like Samuel and serve You, even today at our young age. Let our age not stop us from dedicating our lives to You and learning more and more in how to please You like Samuel did.

We pray for those who could not be here today. We pray you will bring them back safely next week.

Thank you God for Your love, thank you for Your Son Jesus, thank you for caring for us and providing such a beautiful world for us to live in, and thank you for giving us Your Word – the Bible so we can know how to live and learn what pleases You. In Jesus precious name, Amen.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!